

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/806,178

Examiner

Minh D. A

Applicant(s)

TOYOTA ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/16/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-9 and 13-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 4-9, 13-15 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art does not teach that, an illumination head, connected to the power source device, and comprising a current detection resistor that detects a current flowing through a power supply circuit, at least one light emitting device connected to the power supply circuit in the illumination head, and an output terminal which connects to the input terminal of the power source device and outputs a voltage drop across the current detection resistor, wherein a resistance value of the current detection resistor generates a voltage drop equal to a predetermined reference potential when a rated current is supplied to each light emitting device, and the current controller controls the supplied current such that the voltage drop generated across the current detection resistor is equal to the predetermined reference potential recited in independent claim 4.

Prior art does not teach that, a resistance value of the current detection resistor generating a voltage drop equal to a predetermined reference potential when a rated current is supplied to each light emitting device; and an output terminal that outputs a voltage drop across the current detection resistor, wherein the illumination head is connectable to a power source device configured to supply a rated current to a plurality of different illumination heads having different rated currents recited in independent claim 5.

Prior art does not teach that, a reference potential when a rated current is supplied to each light emitting device, the input terminal connects to the output terminal,

the current controller is disposed such that the voltage drop generated across the current detection resistor is equal to the predetermined reference potential when the illuminating head is connected to the power source device, and the power source device is configured to supply a rated current to a plurality of different illumination heads having different rated currents recited in independent claim 6.

The remaining dependent claims 8-9, 13-15 are allowable for at least above reason.

Prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. None of record prior arts stands alone or combination with the others discloses all limitations required in claim invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Citation of relevant prior art

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure Haller (US 6,485,112) and Okawa et al (US 6,157,160) are cited to show a lighting control system.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 AM-2: 45 PM).

Art Unit: 2821

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas W can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner

Minh A

Art Unit 2821

8/29/07


SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER